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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

TECHNICAL NOTE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR – BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

A URA-MFP OVERLAY GRAPHICS TECHNIQUE

An employee suggestion submitted by Gordon Knight of the Grand Junction, Colorado office recommends a combination of high quality clear plastic film and erasable "permanent" colored inks for constructing URA-MFP overlays. (The suggestion has been adopted for optional use by all Bureau offices.)

This overlay technique is based on the use of clear plastic film for overlay material. Clear plastic film overcomes the problem of fading and obliteration of base map detail associated with simultaneous use of overlays made from translucent or "frosted" plastic film. Clear plastic, listed by K & E as uncoated clear polyester base plastic film, is available in several weights, widths and lengths. The .003 inch thickness in the K & E formulation is suitable for most URA-MFP overlays. It is of sufficient weight and, unlike some other formulation, highly resistant to cracking, splitting and creasing in normal use.

Clear plastic is easily marked by various smearproof, waterproof and color intense marking pens. Several lines of "permanent" inks markers for writing and marking plastic are available. Sanford's widely marketed and inexpensive "Sharpie" works well and it is available in eight stay-bright colors. The Sharpie point also facilitates drawing lines of varying widths--from fine to broad.

Inability to make changes to overlay information recorded in waterproof and smearproof inks has been an obstacle to the use of bright colored permanent inks and clear plastic base material. Corrections and changes, however, are easily made by a rubber eraser described as the #920 Microdraft Eraser. The Microdraft eraser removes "permanent" colored inks from plastic film without leaving distracting smears and scratches or damaging the overlay. The #920 Microdraft Eraser and plastic holder are available from Micropoint Incorporated, 620 East Taylor Avenue, Sunnyvale, CA 94086, at a modest cost.

Use of the graphic materials described above produces versatile and highly useful, as well as professional looking overlays, especially when used in conjunction with transfer letters and numbers and "Copy Zip" to label and demark each overlay.

QL
84.2
.L35
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QL
84.2
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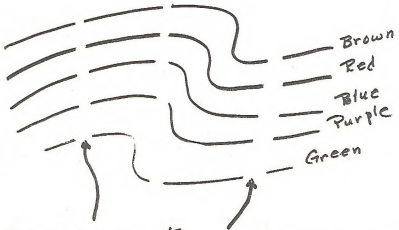
no.263

Red
Green
Brown
Blue
Purple

ASSORTMENT OF "SHARPIE" PERMANENT MARKING INKS ON 0.003 INCH K&E POLYESTER CLEAR UNCOATED PLASTIC FILM



ERASED WITH #920 MICRODRAFT ERASER